GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4596
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
DIVERSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOREST LAND
Krishnadas Shri N.N.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any requests have been received by the Union Government from certain States regarding release of forest land for the development of certain pilgrim centres as well its distribution among tribals who are living in the forest areas; and

(b) if so, the details of such requests received during the last three years and current year alongwith the action taken on each such request, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Information on the proposals received by the Ministry of Environment and Forests during the last three years and the current year for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of pilgrim centres and distribution of forest land among tribals is given in the Annexure.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4596 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 25-4-2005 REGARDING DIVERSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOREST LAND.

(A) Status of Forestry Clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of the proposals received during the last three years and current year regarding development of pilgrim centres.

Sl. No	Name of the proposal	Area (ha.)	Remarks
1.	Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Diversion of forest land for laying link road from Kona (Ramalingeshwaraswamy temple) in Ananthapur district to Guttappalli in Kurnool district.	1.92	Approved on 14.06.2004
2.	Diversion of forest land for construction of passenger ropeway from Tirupathi to Tirumala hills (Lord Venkateshwara temple).	1.44	Approved on 18.10.2004
3.	Diversion of forest land for construction of approach bridge from Nandyal-Giddalur road to Sarva Narasimha Swamy Temple.	0.05	Approved on 14.12.2004
4.	Diversion of forest land for construction of road and erection of 11 KV transmission line	3.30	The proposal has been closed on 30.12.2004 for want of details.

from Kapileswaram to Sangameswaran temple.		
2. Himachal Pradesh		
1. Diversion of forest land in favour of Radha Swami Satsang Beas Dera Jaimal Singh Society in Una district.	0.2959	Approved on 02.12.2003
2. Diversion of forest land in favour of Vaishno Mata Mandir Committee in Kullu district.	0.452	Wanting details sought on 17.06.2004 from the State Government.
3. Diversion of forest land for construction of Shri Krishna Mandir Chairtable Trust in Solan district.	0.12	Approved on 27.07.2004
3. Karnataka		
1. Diversion of forest land for renewal of lease for construction of Idgah for use of Muslim Resident Madina Jamya Masjid	0.6	Wanting details sought on 02.04.2004 from the State Government.
2. Diversion of forest land for construction of intake well, jack-well, intermediate pumping	0.65	Rejected on 15.07.2004
3. Diversion of forest land for construction of Smaraka Mantapa in memory of Saint Sri Vadiraja Swamiji at Sode Thapovan in Uttar Kannada district in favour of Viswathma Theertha Swamiji of Sode Vadiraj Math.	0.02	The proposal has been closed on 08.07.2004 for want of details.
4. Kerala		
1. Diversion of forest land for irrigation components in Pampa and Kakki rivers.	1.4425	Approval granted on 27.12.2004.
2. Diversion of forest land at Nilackal for developing a Base Camp/Satellite township in favour of Travancore Devaswom Board.	20.00	Approval granted on 07.01.2005.
3. Diversion of forest land for development of Nilackal Base Camp for Sabarimala pilgrims in favour of Travancore Devaswom	90.524	The proposal has been discussed on 28.03.2005 in the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under the

	Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.	
4. Diversion of forest land to Travancore Devaswom Board for providing facilities to Sabarimala pilgrims.	12.675	Since the area falls in the Periyar Tiger Reserve, prior permission of National Board of Wildlife and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India is required before consideration under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
		The proposal has been discussed in the meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL) on 6th April 2005.
5. Punjab		
1. Diversion of forest land for Radha Swami Stasang (Beas) in Ropar district.	1.092	Wanting details sought on 31.01.2005 from the State Government.
6. Sikkim		
1. Diversion of forest land to Tendong Hill Pilgrimage Centre Development Committee.	0.4213	Since no clearing or breaking up of forest land and no permanent construction was involved, the proposal was returned to the State Government to regulate the same as per normal procedure under the State Forest Act.
7 Tamil Nadu		
1. Diversion of forest land for electrification to the Palamalai Swamy temple.	0.1392	Approved on 30.10.2002.
8. Maharashtra		
1. Diversion of forest land for Dharamshal electrification to the Palamalai Swamy temple.	1.2	Returned to the State Government on 28.07.2003 due to incomplete information/procedure.
2. Diversion of forest land for construction of Shri Balyogi Sadhanad Ashram in Thane district.	0.69	Returned to the State Government on 26.04.2004 due to incomplete information/procedure.
3. Diversion of forest land for development	0.24	Approved on 02.11.2004.

9. Gujarat

1. Diversion of forest land for construction of Visama on Shetrunjay Hill in Bhavnagar district.	0.0042	Approved on 22.01.2003.
2. Diversion of forest land for construction of Visama on Shetrunjay Hill in Bhavnagar district.	0.96	Approved on 08.07.2004.

10. Madhya Pradesh

1. Diversion of forest land for construction of Paramhamsa Ashram in Satna district.	3.609	Approved on 07.03.2003.

11. Rajasthan

1. Diversion of forest land for installation of a passenger ropeway at Shri Shavitri Mata Mandir.	0.874	Approved.
2. Diversion of forest land for installation of a ropeway to Sugandhmata Temple.	0.7652	Approved.

12. Uttaranchal

1. Diversion of forest land for Satimatha Mandir and Ashram construction.	0.1	Approved.
2. Diversion of forest land for Baba Kali Kamli Wala.	0.392	Approved.
3. Diversion of forest land for Hanuman Mandir and Ashram.	0.56	Approved.
4. Diversion of forest land for Tosri Baba Hadakhan Mandir Trust, Chiliyanaula Charitable Research Hospital.	0.2	Approved.
5. Diversion of forest land for Shri Shri Jagadguru Shankaracharya Sanskrit College and Hospital Trust.	0.10	Rejected on merit.
6. Diversion of forest land for Neem Karoli Baba under Rishikesh Range.	0.4	Approved.

(B) Status of Forestry Clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of the proposals received during the last three years and current year regarding distribution of forest land among tribals.

Sl. No.	Name of the proposal	Area (ha.)	Remarks
1.	Kerala		
1.	Diversion of forest land for landless tribals.	7693.2257	Approval granted on 06.02.2004.